

FORM E - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary State House

In Area no.	Form no.
D	135



wn Lexington

ress 1404 Mass. Ave.

ne J.L. Norris House

sent use _____

sent owner Merwin Hathaway

ription: _____

1885 1889

ource Minute Man Sept. 27

1889
Queen Anne

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard (or Al siding?)

Outbuildings (describe) barn turned garage

w bronze
Other features Tower (off front; wrap-around porch w. spindle frieze; 2nd floor right angle, 6 bay, dormer over; dormer gable, dentil course at cornice roof line & porch, slate roof

Altered No Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less _____ Over one acre x

Approximate frontage 200'

Approximate distance of building from street

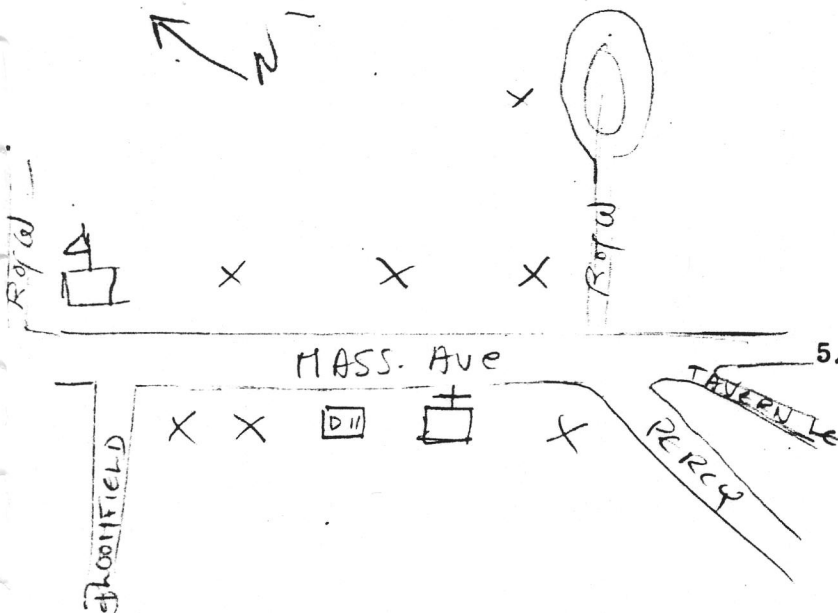
100'

6. Recorded by E. W. Reinhardt

Organization Lex. Hist. Com.

Date 7/30/75

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) John L. Norris

Original use _____

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/	_____	Science/	_____
The Arts	_____	settlement	_____	invention	_____
Commerce	_____	Industry	_____	Social/	_____
Communication	_____	Military	_____	humanitarian	_____
Community development	_____	Political	_____	Transportation	_____

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Barn: Pediment gable, dentil molding continued across gable return, wide cornice boards; _____ - Stained glass window, on south side.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
1404 MASS. AVENUE

Area(s) Form No.

D	135
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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

On September 27, 1889 the *Lexington Minute-man* reported:

Mr. J. L. Norris, to whom is due the credit of the healthy growth in the population on the hill just off of Bloomfield street, is now erecting a residence for his own and family's occupancy. It is to be finely located on the corner of Bloomfield and Main streets.

John L. Norris (1839-1919) was the developer and contractor responsible for much of the building activity in the Bloomfield Street area in the 1880s. Norris, who had previously built the Norris Block at the Center and a group of cottages on Hancock Avenue, initially lived in the house at 1430 Massachusetts Avenue (corner of Bloomfield Street) before building this new Queen Anne-style house at 1404 Massachusetts Avenue in the late 1880s. His brother George built the house at 39 Highland Avenue in 1888. John L. Norris was also a trustee of the Lexington Savings Bank. He lived here until his death in 1919.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*, p. 496.
Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Minute-Man, September 27, 1889.
Middlesex County Register of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.
U.S. Census Records, 1900-1930.

Supplement prepared by:
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